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# Mycological Bulletin

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W. A. Kellerman, Ph. D., Ohio State University  
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## BY WAY OF EXPLANATION

We are indebted again to Mr. G. D. Smith for an account and a picture of a very interesting thing. When you first find it in some shady place you will be puzzled to know whether it is phalloid, a puff-ball, or "egg" of something else, but it will prove to be a *Phallogaster*.

For the mushroom literature to report in this number we have decided to select Professor Beardslee's interesting comments on the *Lepiotas* of Sweden as compared with related forms in America, an article that was published last year in the *Journal of Mycology*. The mushrooms for the most part are cosmopolitan and studies of material in Europe is therefore apropos,—especially interesting if in the classic ground where Fries, the first great mycologist, collected and studied the species.

The note from the *Youth's Companion* touching a mycological bureau, will be read with interest.

## PHALLOGASTER SACCATUS

G. D. SMITH, AKRON, OHIO.

This plant is rare in the United States. When young it somewhat resembles a tuber or a pear.

When I first met it, I took it at once to be a *Phalloid*, and its general appearance suggested to me the name of "*Phallus tuberosa*", but upon investigation, I found it had previously been given its present name, as printed above.

There has been some doubt about *Phallogaster saccatus* being a phalloid, but a close examination will show the same greenish gleba which, upon decay, gives forth an odor that can not be surpassed by any of the phalloids.

It also has the same spores and the same basidia and deliquesces in the same way. The center is white and somewhat translucent.

When it ripens, this whole central mass deliquesces and disappears, while the gleba also deliquesces, but clings to the inner

walls of the peridium, which soon breaks, giving the insects a chance to scatter the spores. This seems to be done largely by flies and the rove beetle.

The plants vary somewhat in size, from three-fourths inches to two inches in length, and from one-half to one inch in width. The color is light pink, purple or a little lavender in some places.

I have found them in only one locality, and that was in a rich, shady nook near the Cuyahoga river. They grew on the ground or on very much decayed wood, with an abundance of white mycelial threads attached to their base. Twenty or thirty grew close together, but not touching each other.

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#### NOTES FROM MUSHROOM LITERATURE. XI.

W. A. KELLERMANN.

Careful study of species we know, or pretend to know, is urgently called for today. From the current literature pertaining to mushrooms we have selected the valuable comments on *Lepiotas* by Professor Beardslee, which he studied in Sweden and recorded in a recent number of the *Journal of Mycology*. The article is here reported in full:

"THE *LEPIOTAS* OF SWEDEN.—The following notes on the species of *Lepiota* collected in Sweden by Mr. C. G. Lloyd and the writer during the summer of 1905 may be of interest in connection with the papers upon this genus which are appearing in the *Journal*.

"The number of species collected was not large, probably partly at least because work was necessarily stopped the first week of September. Doubtless other species might have been found in the same collecting grounds if work had continued a few weeks longer. The species detected were six in number, *L. procera*, *naucina*, *rhacodes*, *cristata*, *metulaespora*, and *amianthina*. Of *Lepiota procera* little need be said. It was found in the same surroundings in which it would have appeared in the United States and agreed with our plant in every detail. There is, however, food for reflection in the fact that this fine species which lends itself so well to description and illustration that it is easily recognizable, even by the amateur, has been reported from so many stations and is known to have so wide a distribution. Is it not at least possible that some of its relatives are also widely distributed, but owing to the greater difficulty of their recognition, are not so widely recognized? It is hard for one whose views on 'new species' are perhaps a little 'cranky' to account